

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGING  
December 10, 2012**

<b>COA MEMBERS</b>	<b>DOA STAFF</b>	<b>EXCUSED</b>	<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	<b>GUESTS</b>
Rae Ann Butler	Dawn Day-Morales	Hermine Bernstein		
Dennis Ford	Sue Ramsburg	Millard Haines		
Ernell Graham	Pat Rosensteel			
David Gray, Comm	Kathy Schey			
Diane Julian	Carolyn True			
Carol Krimm, Alderman				
Louise Lynch				
Mary Rice				
Debra Savageau				
Virginia Skelley				
Steve Wilhide				
Dan Yeeles				

- I. **Call to Order** – RaeAnn Butler called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – RaeAnn welcomed all attendees. A new member was present at today's meeting so introductions were done around the table.
- III. **Action on the Agenda** – There are no additions to the agenda.

- I. **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the October 8, 2012 and November 5, 2012 meetings were approved as written. All were in favor.

**Commissioner's Report** – Commissioner Gray spoke about the proposed sale of the Montevue and Citizens Care and Rehab facilities. The majority of the BoCC have decided to hire a real estate broker to explore the options. Recent financial information publicized may not give a true picture of the fiscal future. He advised the CoA to watch the BoCC agendas and be present to voice your opinion of the proposal. There was some discussion among the group regarding this proposal. There was a suggestion that the CoA submit a letter of concern regarding the future of these facilities. RaeAnn will draft a letter and send out to members for review.

Alderman Krimm suggested that there be a request for a specific performance analysis at these facilities. This would give an opportunity to determine what the challenges are and the auditors could make suggestions on ways to make the facilities more cost effective. There are sixty beds in CCRC for indigent citizens and these are the only ones in the county. This should be a point of pride for Frederick County as other counties do not have this asset. However, other counties do have small assisted living facilities which serve the low income individuals. If these beds are eliminated, these disadvantaged residents will become a greater expense when moved into the community. The waitlist for the community services is already overwhelmed.

**Alderman's Report** – The City is starting their budget process. Carolyn mentioned the city has a taskforce for the blighted and vacant properties in the city. She mentioned to this taskforce that there are senior citizens in the community who cannot financially afford the upkeep to their properties. Assessments for these properties should be done on an individual basis with consideration for unfortunate circumstances.

- IV. **Mission Moment, Dawn Morales** – Dawn Morales is the Coordinator for the Older Adult Waiver and the Money Follows the Person programs. Both of these programs work with senior clients who receive Medicaid funding to live in the community or an assisted living facility. These individuals must be financially and medically eligible. They must meet a nursing home level of care which means they need assistance with specific activities of daily living (ADL). Some of the services they receive in the community are personal care, home delivered meals, durable medical equipment (DME) and adult daycare. They are also seen by a nurse monthly and are eligible for respite care. There is an extended wait for both of these programs. An

individual who is in a LTC facility with long term Medicaid is able to move into a waiver program. These programs save state funds by keeping individuals in their home which is more cost effective than living in a LTC facility. At present there are twenty-nine clients managed by Dawn. The average age of people currently in the program is 80 and the average income is approximately \$900/month.

- V. Executive Committee Member Needed, RaeAnn Butler** – There is a need for another member on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee consists of the Chair, Vice Chair, and three other members of the Commission. This group meets once a month to address any issues that have come up and to prepare the agenda. There was a suggestion that Hermaine Bernstein be the third member. The meeting is normally the last Tuesday of the month at 1:00pm at the Dept of Aging.

- VI. Nominating Committee Update, Diane Julian, RaeAnn Butler** – There was an advertisement for new members which ran for two weeks. Diane has not heard from any interested parties. It is also advertised on the county website. Millard Haines will now chair the Nominating Committee and Dan Yeeles will also serve on this Committee. There are currently four vacancies which need to be filled. These meetings are based on citizen interest. Diane proposed that RaeAnn and Louise remain as the Chair and Chairperson for 2013. This suggested slate of pending officers will be voted on at the January meeting. Ginny Skelley will join the nominating committee at this time. Diane will forward the Nominating Committee information to Millard. There was some discussion regarding the geographic location of members in regards to the by-laws. After some clarification, it was determined the Commission is still in geographic compliance with the by-laws. There are times when the by-laws are too restrictive which makes it difficult to maintain a full commission. The by-laws have specific geographic, age, and service provider criteria. There was a suggestion to revisit the wording of the by-laws next year.

Ginny Skelley has submitted her interest in renewing her membership on the CoA. Diane put forth a motion to recommend Ginny remain on the CoA. Steven seconded this motion. All were in favor. Diane will be forwarded this information to the BoCC for consideration.

**Advocacy Training, Steve Wilhide, Louise Lynch**- The January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting will focus on advocacy training. Rick Weldon will be present to speak to the CoA. Invitations have gone out to other area senior groups. RSVPs have been requested. This training will encompass the majority of the agenda time. Louise will invite the Ministerial Association and the Frederick Community Action Agency.

**Needs Assessment and RFP Update, Pat Rosensteel, Carolyn True** – The RFP has been put out for bid. The bids are due by end of business day on December 20<sup>th</sup>. An Aging Needs Assessment Evaluation team has been formed. RaeAnn is representing the CoA. There have been several companies interested in the proposal.

**Public Relations Committee, Debra Savageau** – This committee met on December 6<sup>th</sup> with Sherry Greenfield. She has offered to write one to two articles each month. It was suggested that these be human interest stories to generate attention. One of the main purposes of these articles is to get the word out on what services are available to seniors in the community. There was also a recent article in the Senior Living magazine. One suggestion of this committee is to submit the DoA quarterly newsletter to the local newspaper. Another suggestion was to do an article on the CoA which may generate some interest in membership.

**VII. TSAC, Alderman Krimm** – Nancy Norris is the new Director of Transit. There have been some fluctuations in ride availability due to lack of staff. Hiring of two positions vacant due to retirement was approved by the BoCC. The need for demand response transportation will grow by fifty percent by 2020. The Frederick County Transit system has been recognized as Best Fixed Route in the State.

**State CoA, Louise Lynch** – The State Commission is working on creating a website. Local CoAs would be able to submit information which could be accessed by other CoAs. Michael LaChance has decided to retire after thirty two years. He has been a mainstay with legislative issues for the State CoA.

**Partners in Care, Diane Julian** – Diane stated that Partners in Care did not meet this month. Diane did hear recently that Washington County has a program called Snow Angels which utilizes volunteers to help seniors with snow removal. Frederick County does not have this type of formal plan.

**Friends of MoW, Louise Lynch** – “Silk and Burlap” will continue their fundraising effort through the holiday season. Country Meadows has raised \$400 during the month of November. They will continue the sale of cookies and pies in their fundraising efforts. All profits go to the Friends of MoW.

**USM, Ginny Skelley** – Ginny stated that the USM met last month. Neil Bergman from the MD Tax Policy Institute was the guest speaker. The next big concern is the fiscal cliff. This would cause a loss of income for many state and federal employees which would trickle down to local business. The USM Forum will be held on March 19<sup>th</sup>. If

you join USM, you will automatically get a ticket to the Forum. The date change will be too late for lobbying but the weather should be less of an issue. They are looking for volunteers for the Legislative Committee.

**Adult Public Disabled Review Board, Mary Rice** – This group met on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Seven cases were presented by the DoA and all cases were found to have appropriate services. The Dept of Social Services presented five cases.

**Maryland Access Point, Kathy Schey** – There was a recent presentation, *Scan Smart and Fraud Free*, held at the Urbana Senior Center. Corporal Jason West presented information which was videotaped for Channel 19. This program was very successful.

There will be a new pilot program advertised as *Mobile I & A*. A representative from the SHIP, MEAP (Maryland Energy Assistance Program), and the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) will assemble at each senior center once a month. Citizens will be able to make an appointment to meet with these representatives on one date at one location. This program will start in January at the Frederick Senior Center. This will be a great partnership between these local organizations. It is a goal to include the VA and possibly Legal Aid in the future.

**Director, Carolyn True** –Carolyn distributed a spreadsheet which visualizes the FY12 closeout report which will be submitted to the state. This report shows the funding received and how it was spent. Carolyn also distributed the monthly report which will be submitted this week. The MC-D volunteers provided a great service to the Medicare population this year. There are some new bus trips which will be coming up. The Dept of Aging will also be accepting credit card payment in the near future. In February the Frederick Senior Center will pilot a Café concept. This will allow seniors other food options at a different time of the day. The hope is to expand it to other senior centers. We will be working with the current food vendor, Business Food Solutions.

There is a proposed Dental Clinic for Frederick County adults. The University of Maryland anticipates a dental clinic in Frederick County in 2014. This is a much needed service for seniors in the area.

Steve spoke of the continued unmet need for Mental Health in Frederick County for seniors. There are very few providers for mental health who will accept MC and/or MA. There has been work done to have Frederick County declared a designated shortage area. This has been a very slow process.

- VIII. Announcements, All** – There will be a wrapping party for the Be A Santa to a Senior program this Friday December 14<sup>th</sup> from 1pm – 4pm. Donations of tape, gift bags and wrapping paper are always appreciated.

FCC has registrations available for the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered) conference which will be held on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Attendance is limited so early registration is suggested.

Louise stated that the Washington County Forum will be held tomorrow at 10:00am at the Girls Club Senior Center. The Western Maryland delegation will be present.

- IX. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Ramsburg  
Recording Secretary

Upcoming Dates:

January 29, 2013. CoA Executive Committee meeting, 1:00 at Frederick County Dept of Aging

February 11, 2013, Commission on Aging, 1:00 at Frederick Senior Center, 1440 Taney Ave, Frederick, MD,

March 19, 2013, USM Legislative Forum, Annapolis, MD